Attorney Docket No.: IRF-0041

Inventors: David M. Thomas

Serial No.: 10/536,534 Filing Date: June 27, 2005

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This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of the claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): An electrically conducting carbon composite comprising a reducible organometallic complex dispersed or dissolved in a mixture of binder and a thin layer of conducting metallic material deposited on exterior carbon, said reducible organo-metallic complex being added in an amount sufficient to form at least a monolayer of metal on all free surfaces of the composite.

Claim 2 (original): The electrically conducting carbon composite of claim 1 wherein the reducible organo-metallic complex comprises zinc, nickel, copper, silver, molybdenum, platinum or palladium.

Claim 3 (original): The electrically conducting carbon composite of claim 1 wherein the reducible organo-metallic complex comprises molybdenum.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A method for producing an electrically conducting carbon composite comprising dispersing or dissolving a reducible organo-metallic complex in a mixture of binder and metallizing exterior carbon, said reducible organo-metallic complex being added in an amount sufficient to form at least a monolayer of metal on all free surfaces of the composite.

Claim 5 (withdrawn): The method of claim 4 wherein the reducible organo-metallic complex comprises zinc, nickel, copper, silver, molybdenum, platinum or palladium.

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Claim 6 (withdrawn): The method of claim 4 wherein the reducible organo-metallic complex comprises molybdenum.

Claim 7 (original): A fuel cell separator comprising the carbon composite of claim 1.